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TITLE: WATER-SOLUBLE NONIONIC CELLULOSE ETHER AND ITS USE  
IN COATING MATERIAL

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ABSTRACT:

PURPOSE: To obtain a water-soluble nonionic cellulose ether useful for coating materials high in leveling and high-shear viscosity by introducing an ether group which is a hydrophobic unit-hydrophilic unit of a specific alkylphenoxyalkylene oxide-2-hydroxypropylene ether group.

CONSTITUTION: Wood pulp is added in an aqueous sodium hydroxide solution and mercerized, compressed, finely cut and then reacted with ethylene oxide to form hydroxyethyl cellulose which is then reacted with nonylphenoxyethylglycidyl ether to obtain a water-soluble nonionic cellulose ether containing an ether group which is a hydrophobic unit-hydrophilic unit of an alkylphenoxyalkylene oxide-2-hydroxypropylene ether group, the hydrophilic unit containing zero to six 2-3C alkylene oxide groups and the hydrophobic unit being represented by the formula (wherein R, R